

## What is the Aerosol Dispensers Directive (ADD)?

### BACKGROUND

Original Directive 75/324/EEC

Published in OJ 9 June 1975

Amended in 1994 94/1/EC

Published in OJ 28 January 1994

Amended in 2008 2008/47/EC

Published in OJ 08 April 2008

### SCOPE

- Container size by material
- Testing of empty cans
- Testing of finished aerosol product
- General labelling and warnings for aerosol

### KEY Changes in 2008 Revision

- Approved alternative to waterbath now permitted
- Increases maximum pressure at 50°C to 13.2 bar for non flammable propellants (only)
- Reinforces hazard assessment of spray
- Allows for the development of alternative hot tests
- Limits maximum fill to 90% at 50°C
- **All** aerosols can now be labelled by volume only (not just prescribed quantities)
- Introduces GHS classification for aerosols
- Reintroduces flammable liquids with flash point up to 93°C
  - 'extremely flammable' if  $\geq 85\%$  flammable contents
  - 'non flammable'  $\leq 1\%$  flammable contents
- Full test methods reproduced
- In line with UN GHS for transport (already implemented)

### ADD is an 'Optional Directive'

The ADD is an *optional harmonising directive*, i.e. it requires all Member States to allow the marketing of aerosol dispensers which comply with the provisions of the ADD on their territory; it also allows individual Member States to permit other aerosol containers not regulated by ADD. The other EU Member States have made the Directive mandatory.

Compliance with the ADD is indicated by an ADD-specific mark on the container, the "*reversed epsilon*". Aerosol dispensers marketed under national law, for which compliance with the ADD is not claimed, do not bear this mark.



**BAMA strongly supports the position that the ADD should become mandatory in the UK.**

If you have an aerosol related question call us on tel: +44 (0) 207 828 5111  
or email: [enquiries@bama.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@bama.co.uk)

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